

Dec. 8.

Today's Fish Market.

Bay of Islands salt herring, \$4.50 per bbl.; Bonne Bay salt herring \$3.75 per bbl.; pickled herring \$5 per bbl.
 Eastern deck handline salt cod, \$5.50 per cwt.; for large \$5 for mediums and \$5 for snappers.
 Salt trawl bank cod, \$4.75 for large and \$4.37½ for medium.
 Bank halibut 12 cts. per lb. for white, 11 cts for gray, with the heads on.
 Salt cusk, large, \$2.50 per cwt.; medium, \$2.00.
 Salt haddock, \$2.00 per cwt.
 Salt hake, \$2.00 per cwt.
 Salt pollock, \$2.00 per cwt.
 Dory handline cod, \$5.40 per cwt. for large; \$5.00 for mediums and \$5.00 for snappers.
 Splitting prices for fresh fish:
 Codfish, large, \$2.50 per cwt.; medium, \$1.80; snappers, 80c.
 Cusk, large, \$1.75 per cwt.; medium \$1.30; snappers, 50c.
 Haddock, \$1.10 per cwt.; hake, \$1.30 per cwt.; dressed pollock, \$1.20 per cwt.; round pollock, \$1.15 per cwt.
 Georges handline salt cod, \$5.25 for large and \$4.75 for medium.

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MONEY IN SMALL FISH.

How the Maine Boys Lay a Foundation for a Business Fortune.

What the boys and girls of the forest fringe in eastern Maine choose to call "easy money" is earned every autumn by going forth with light dipnets when the shell ice is forming along the shallow margins of lakes and ponds and dipping out the small mummichubs, minnows and sticklebacks, and keeping them in aerated tanks until the law is off for citizens of Maine to fish through the ice for trout and landlocked salmon.

An active boy with rubber boots and net can dip two barrels of these small fish in a day, or about 200 individual fishes, which are practically worthless at the time they are caught, as the law forbids fishing for landlocked salmon, togue and trout after September 30. By December 30 pickerel fishing begins, and live bait sells for four cents a dozen.

By waiting another month the fish in the tanks find a ready market for members of the trout family at two, three and even four cents apiece. As the season advances, the days grow longer, and the supply of live bait grows constantly less, and trained fishermen who have not put by great stores of earthworms will often pay \$5 to \$8 a hundred for plump and lively sticklebacks.

When a boy with a horse and cart can capture 5000 lively minnows in a day and care for them with a few bread crumbs and keeping a constant flow of water in his cellar, and sell them at his door in February for \$250 or more in cash, he begins to dream about the great wealth he is going to win when he becomes a real man.

NO SIGN OF FROST.

Weather Continues Mild at Bay of Islands—Herring Scarce.

A letter to the Boston Fish Bureau from Bay of Islands, N. F., dated December 5, says the herring in the bay appear restless and have not settled there continues very mild, with no sign of frost. The herring in the bay appear restless and have not settled down in any of the Arms. There appear to be plenty outside, in deep water where the fishermen cannot catch them. The fishermen say that the long spell of mild weather is responsible for the fish not striking into the Arms in a goodly body. At Bay of Islands the schs. Oregon and Saladin are loaded with salt and waiting a favorable chance to sail.

At Bonne Bay herring are plentiful and are running better for size and quality than last season. At this place sch. Essex, Maxine and Gov. Russell are reported loaded with salted cargoes.

Recent advices from Bay of Islands, N. F., state that schs. Arthur James, Indiana and Sylvania have secured full loads of salt herring there and sailed for home. The report also states that one of Davis Bros. fleet, one of the Cunningham & Thompson Co. fleet and two of the Gorton-Pew Fisheries fleet are among the latest sailings.

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HAKE HIGHER THAN HADDOCK.

T WHARF MARKET STRONG WITH LIGHT RECEIPTS EVEN FOR WEEK-END.

There is but one of the long stringer market fleet at T wharf this morning, the bulk of the arrivals being confined to the little bay netters and off-shore haddocks, there being seven of the former and three of the latter, also four pollockers.

The market holds strong even though the end of the week is in sight, but the small amount in is not enough even for the lively local demand and prices consequently hold up well. A handful of shore haddock sold for \$4, while off-shore haddock sold at \$3.75.

The plebian hake has come into his own and is liable to be a king seller for quite a while from now on. This morning they brought more than haddock and sold on a par with large cod, at \$4.50. The pollockers got from \$2.35 to \$2.50 for their good catches. One of the off-shore crafts had 1000 weight of halibut and sold at 18 and 14 cents per pound.

The off-shore craft in are schs. Raymah, Elsie and Conqueror the fares running from 34,000 to 49,000 pounds, sch. Elsie having the latter amount. Capt. Felix Hogan in the Raymah, is making a big record for quick trips and is hitting the market every time. Capt. Hogan bids fair to put his big fall and early winter record of 1908 in the shade, if he keeps up his present gait to New Year's.

Boston Arrivals.

The arrivals and receipts in detail are:

Sch. Wm. H. Rider, 16,000 pollock.
 Sch. Elsie, 33,000 haddock, 10,000 cod, 5000 hake, 1000 halibut.

Sch. Conqueror, 25,000 haddock, 7000 cod, 3000 hake.

Sch. Emily Cooney, 3000 haddock, 1000 cod, 500 hake.

Sch. Wodan, 700 cod.

Sch. Golden Eagle, 600 haddock, 3100 cod, 300 hake.

Sch. Mabel Leavitt, 300 haddock, 5800 cod, 1500 pollock.

Sch. Florida, 3000 cod.

Sch. Eddie A. Mnot, 1800 cod.

Sch. On Time, 1500 cod.

Sch. Sylvester, 100 cod.

Sch. Volant, 17,000 pollock.

Sch. Appomttox, 10,000 pollock.

Sch. Marguerite Haskins, 12,000 pollock.

Sch. Raymah, 14,000 haddock, 12,000 cod, 2000 hake, 4000 cusk.

Haddock, \$3.75 to \$4 per cwt.; large cod, \$4.50; market cod, \$2.25 to \$3.75; hake, \$4.50; pollock, \$2.35 to \$2.50; halibut, 18 and 14 cents per lb.

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Lunenburg, N. S., Fish Notes.

The LaHave fishing schooner Utowana is sold to Newfoundland parties.

The new fishing schooner Lloyd-George, recently launched at Shelburne from the shipyard of McKay & Co., is now lying at Riverport.

Another crack bank fishing schooner was launched from Smith & Rhuland's yard Wednesday morning. She will be commanded by Capt. John Mosher, for whose daughter the vessel was named. The Marion Mosher is 115 feet over all, 26 feet beam and 10 feet 10 inches hold. She is fitted with all modern improvements.

The fresh fishing schooner James A. McLean, Capt. Geldert, which was ashore near Shelburne, was successfully floated and arrived at Lunenburg Tuesday evening. She will go on the marine railway for repairs.

Danish Steamer Lost

Hope is abandoned at St. John's for the safety of the little Danish steamer Hamlet with her crew of five men, which has been unaccounted for on a voyage taking ordinarily three days. She was bound from St. John's for Lamaline, to load fish for a Spanish port. Terrific storms swept the coast the day she departed.

Portland Fish Notes.

Except for a few hundred pounds that were brought in here by the small boats yesterday, there were no fish receipts. The market is fairly low at the present time, owing to the bad weather of the past few days. The fleet is outside, however, and is expected in today with a large amount of sea food.

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SAW STRANGE FISH.

Crew of Galveston Schooner Thought to Have Sighted Bottle Nose Whale.

Capt. J. E. Haggart of the fishing sch. Avalon arrived in Galveston, Tex., last week and told of seeing a queer fish between Galveston and the Campeche banks. It was large enough to be a whale and resembled one in color. Closer inspection showed that it was neither a whale nor shark. Its tail instead of being horizontal like that of a whale was perpendicular like a red snapper, and from the dorsal fin it tapered almost to a sharp point something like a mackerel, sharp knots and bumps crusted with barnacles being readily noticed, the knots being of the size of baseballs. The head of the fish was exceedingly peculiar, and that the head had a spout hole demonstrated that it belonged to the whale family. The difference, however, was that the blow hole instead of being on top of the head was directly in the centre of a tapering pointed nose, giving it the appearance of a short length of an elephant's trunk fastened to the head and tapering back to where the head began to be body. While watching the fish, Haggart says, it raised its head out of the water and spouted and a stream of water an inch or so thick shot into the air for a distance of 15 or 20 feet, resembling a stream from a fire hose. The crew was naturally wonderstruck at such a sight and wanted to get away, but Capt. Haggart stayed until the fish sank from sight. It is stated that this is the first time such a fish has been seen in Gulf waters. The specimen is supposed to have been a bottle nose whale, usually found in the Japan sea.

Alaskan Fisheries Notes.

The halibut market shows no change for the better. The best returns for the fish shipped recently to Seattle reads 3 3-4 cents. The amount "cooked" in transportation is large. On an average, say many fishermen, the shipments do not average 2 1-2 cents.

Recently there were 40 halibut boats tied up at Wrangell Narrows. These boats have a capacity of 800,000, but the masters and crews do not appear anxious to fish at the low prices. Some of the boats which arrived at the Narrows when halibut was being shipped on a falling market have not made a successful trip.

Halibut is getting scarce, and is going in deeper water. The small boats, which were bringing in about 5000, are not obtaining 80 per cent. of that amount. The larger boats, which are fishing in 250 fathoms, are doing better than the small.

Reports from Juneau indicate that some of the halibut men at that city have become completely disgusted with the turn of affairs and have tied up. At Ketchikan the North East people are buying all good halibut and it is stated, are paying three cents.

A Seattle-Alaska boat which sailed recently from the Narrows took 600 boxes of halibut, 200 boxes coming from Juneau. There were 350 boxes on the boat leaving the Narrows November 21.

Several new boats which were built in South East Alaska this season have not made a trip. The owners in some instances have hauled up. Small halibut boats are for sale at ridiculously low prices, one of them selling gear and engine that cost \$300 for \$75.

Bait is cheap, but in light demand. A large amount of salt bait is on hand. Should the price of halibut continue low and the weather keep mild, the baiters will be "stuck" badly on salt bait.

The demand for herring salted is large. The buyers "passed up" the typewriter, and are using the cable and wireless. Eight dollars per barrel is freely offered. The indications are that \$9 will be the figures by December 1. An extra effort is being made by fishermen to secure the large herring.

Herring, dry salted in halibut boxes is in good demand at \$55 a ton, Seattle. There is inquiry for pickled whole black cod. The halibut schooners are salting fair amounts. They will ship about Christmas. Not a pound of smelts is in sight. King salmon is still being fished by the Indian.

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Herring Vessels at Sydney, C. B.

Six of the Gloucester herring fleet were harbored at North Sydney, C. B., on Monday, two of them bound home with cargoes, and four bound down.

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ANOTHER FARE OF CODFISH.

FARE OF 300,000 POUNDS CODFISH BROUGHT HERE FOR GORTON-PEW FISHERIES CO.

All the shore fleet have gone out and will probably get in a set today, as it looks to be good fishing weather outside.

The only arrival here during the night, with fish, is the British sch. Violet Courtney, from St. Jacques, N. F., with about 297,469 pounds of salt cod for Gorton-Pew Fisheries Company.

The torchers were out last night and brought over 70 barrels of small herring this morning.

Today's Arrivals and Receipts.

The arrivals and receipts in detail are:

- Br. sch. Violet Courtney, St. Jacques, N. F., 297,469 lbs. salt cod.
Torcher, 70 bbls. fresh herring.
Sch. Stranger, shore.
Sch. Flora J. Sears, shore.
Sch. Dixie, shore.
Sch. Edith Silveira, shore.
Sch. Harriet, shore.
Sch. Maud F. Silva, shore.
Sch. Reliance, shore.
Sch. Virginia, shore.
Sch. A. C. Newhall, shore.
Sch. Buema, shore.
Sch. Lillian, shore.

Vessels Sailed.

- Sch. Thomas S. Gorton, haddocking.
Sch. Belbina P. Domingoes, haddocking.
Sch. Thalia, haddocking.
Sch. Rita A. Viator, haddocking.
Sch. Rhodora, haddocking.
Sch. Rose Standish, haddocking.
Sch. Emerald, pollocking.
Sch. Mattie Winship, Georges.

Today's Fish Market.

- Bay of Islands salt herring, \$4.50 per bbl.
Bonne Bay salt herring \$3.75 per bbl.
Pickled herring \$5 per bbl.
Eastern deck handline salt cod, \$5.50 per cwt.; for large \$5 for mediums and \$5 for snappers.
Salt trawl bank cod, \$4.75 for large and \$4.37 1/2 for medium.
Bank halibut 12 cts. per lb. for white, 11 cts for gray, with the heads on.
Salt cusk, large, \$2.50 per cwt.; medium, \$2.00.
Salt haddock, \$2.00 per cwt.
Salt hake, \$2.00 per cwt.
Salt pollock, \$2.00 per cwt.
Dory handline cod, \$5.40 per cwt. for large; \$5.00 for mediums and \$5.00 for snappers.
Splitting prices for fresh fish:
Codfish, large, \$2.50 per cwt.; medium, \$1.80; snappers, 80c.
Cusk, large, \$1.75 per cwt.; medium \$1.30; snappers, 50c.

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Pensacola Fish Notes.

Red snappers were scarce during the past week because of the light arrivals. There were only two vessels with totals of 29,000 red snappers and 8000 groupers. The Warren Fish Co.'s smack Emma Jane had the largest catch, consisting of 17,000 red snappers and 5000 groupers. E. E. Saunders & Co. had 12,000 red snappers and 3000 groupers on the smack Caviar.

Although about half a dozen smacks are overdue, no fears are entertained for their safety. This week every vessel, with the exception of the two mentioned above, is out of the harbor, either bound to or from the banks. The weather is fine, fish are biting well and indications point to good catches before Christmas. It is likely that vessels which arrive within the next week will make short trips before the beginning of the year. The demand for fish has been very brisk and it has been impossible to meet it.

Was Formerly Crack Gloucester Fisherman.

Sch. Violet Courtney, which is in port this morning and flying the British flag, was once one of the finest fishing vessels sailing from this port, being none other than the sch. Sea Fox, which when new was commanded by Capt. Lovell J. Hodsdon. Later the craft was sold to Provincetown parties and went from that port for a number of years and then was sold to her present Newfoundland owners.

WOULD FAVOR FISHING VESSELS

Digby Representative Introduced Bill in Canadian Parliament.

An Ottawa dispatch says: Mr. Jameson of Digby, introduced two bills in the house Monday afternoon. One bill is entitled an act respecting fishing vessels and the other is entitled an act to amend the customs act. Under the last named measure, vessels duly licensed are not required to report to the customs officers before entering a port. In presenting the first bill, Mr. Jameson said: "This act is identical with one which I introduced last session, but which, at the request of a member of the government, for certain reasons in the public interest—reasons which do not exist—I refer to the then impending Hague arbitration, I did not press at that time."

"The act relates only to vessels of Canadian register, engaged or intending to engage, in the Atlantic fisheries of Canada."

"The object of the bill is to facilitate the movements of vessels employed in fishing, more especially those engaged in the fresh fish branch of the industry."

"It will be purely optional with the owners of such craft to apply for licenses, and so bring their vessels under the operation of the act, but during the time any vessel is under license, her employment is limited to the fishing trade."

"A bill to be introduced concurrently with this one, is intended to amend the customs act and exempt vessels licensed under this act from the necessity of reporting at the customs house, the two being essential to that end. As the law stands, a fishing vessel is liable to a penalty of \$400, if she lands her fish or even drops anchor in a harbor, without reporting. This is a serious drawback to the fresh fish business, which can not afford any delays, and which it is hoped this legislation will remove."

SEIZED ILLEGAL LOBSTERS.

Boston Smack in Trouble With Inspector at Portland.

One of the largest seizures of short lobsters ever made in the vicinity of Portland occurred Tuesday forenoon, when Warden George A. Dow, assisted by Wardens Wallace, McVane, Walker and Mitchell, boarded and took possession of the well known lobster smack C. B. Harrington of Boston, anchored in Portland harbor. The wardens immediately commenced the work of sorting out the lobsters, those of legal size being put in the Willard cars, while the shorts after being carefully counted, were thrown overboard. The counting was kept up until dark, and a very disagreeable job it was for the wardens in almost zero weather.

The smack is supposed to have about 4000 lobsters on board, and of these 1818 of full size had been counted at dark, while 752 shorts had been found among them. A similar proportion among the balance of the lot would make the total number of delinquent lobsters about 1300, which renders some one liable to a fine of \$1300. If the captain is unable to pay the fine, the full sized lobsters will be confiscated by the state and sold, and in this case would bring nearly the amount of the fine.

Capt. McLain claims that he purchased the lobsters from parties at the eastward in good faith, and supposed they were all of legal size. Parties who claim to know, say practically the whole lot were purchased from fishermen at New Harbor and Pemaquid.

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Good Stocks Made Haddocking.

Sch. Raymah, Capt. Felix Hogan, stocked \$1200 and sch. Georgianna, Capt. Moulesong, stocked \$1140 on their haddock trips landed at T wharf yesterday.

Sch. Elsie, Capt. Thomas Downie, stocked \$1640 on her fine haddock fare landed at T wharf yesterday, the crew sharing \$39 clear. The vessel fished on Western Bank, and Capt. Downie reports four fine fish days. Coming home the weather was different and he had a great chance to try the speed and weatherly qualities of the new craft. All hands say that she proved herself a flyer and a "dog" for carrying canvas, wagging her mainsail beautifully all through the heavy blow.

Sale of Fishing Schooner.

The fishing schooner Gertrude of Boston, owned by Frank O'Hara, Sr., has been sold in St. Johns, N. F., and will probably be loaded with frozen herring for Boston or Gloucester, and later will probably join the sealing fleet that leaves St. Johns in March.

LIGHT RECEIPTS AT T WHARF.

EIGHT OR NINE VESSELS THERE THIS MORNING, HAVE ONLY POLLOCK.

The T wharf men will not have much to do today except clean up and get away early, as this morning found but nine vessels at the pier and eight of these were pollockers with catches of from 3500 to 18,000 pounds. The one lone shore boat had 16,000 pounds of fresh fish, mostly haddock and her trip went like dew before the sun at satisfactory prices. Sch. Mary E. Cooney came in yesterday afternoon and sold.

Haddock brought \$4.50 this morning, with large cod \$5 and hake \$3 for small and \$6 for large. Pollock were wanted all right, for the dealers paid \$2.25 and \$2.30 for the trips in.

Boston Arrivals.

The fares and prices in detail are: Sch. Viking, 16,000 pollock. Sch. James and Esther, 14,000 pollock.

- Sch. Thomas Brundage, 9000 pollock.
Sch. Winnifred, 18,000 pollock.
Sch. Eglantine, 16,000 pollock.
Sch. Hope, 3500 pollock.
Sch. Mettacommet, 6000 pollock.
Sch. Massasoit, 300 cod, 4000 pollock.
Sch. Robert and Carr, 9500 haddock, 2500 cod, 2000 hake, 1500 cusk.
Sch. Mary E. Cooney, 6000 haddock, 1000 hake, 2000 pollock.

Haddock, \$4.50 per cwt.; large cod, \$5; market cod, \$3; hake, \$3 to \$6; pollock, \$2.25 to \$2.30; cusk, \$2.75.

WILL CONTEST LOBSTER CASE.

Maine Laws Will Be Tested as Result of Recent Big Seizure.

Maine lobster laws are sure to be tested as a result of the big seizure of "shorts" made in Portland harbor Tuesday by four wardens led by Warden George A. Dow when they boarded the Boston lobster smack C. B. Harrington of Boston and seized over 1000 lobsters, which were of illegal length in that state, but which would be of legal length in Massachusetts.

Isaac Harvey, owner of the lobster smack, evidently intends to fight the case as he has engaged William H. Gulliver as counsel. There have been important developments in the case during the past 24 hours as the legal lobsters taken by the wardens have been returned to Mr. Harvey, the vessel has been libelled and Mr. Harvey yesterday furnished bonds in the sum of \$1100 covering the libel, the bondsmen being Walter Trefethen of the firm of N. F. Trefethen & Co., Frank S. Willard of the firm of F. S. Willard & Co. and Mr. Harvey. Mr. Trefethen and Mr. Willard are lobster dealers in Portland and Mr. Harvey is a dealer in lobsters in Boston besides being owner of the sch. C. B. Harrington.

Mr. Harvey, owner of the Harrington, claimed that as the state law under which the action was taken, provides that vessels officered and owned by non-residents can be seized and held to pay the fine, that the law is unconstitutional from the fact that it discriminates between residents and non-residents, imposing upon non-residents a burden that it does not impose on residents of the state.

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GASOLINE TANKS WERE EMPTY.

Boston Fishermen Were Helpless in Power Boat off Minot's Light.

Somebody stole about 20 gallons of gasoline from the motor-dory of M. C. Crawford of South Boston, Thursday night, and consequently for about three hours yesterday morning Crawford and his brother Conrad, were helpless off Minot's Light. The dory had been tied up near the City wharf in South Boston, and early Friday morning the Crawfords started out for the fishing grounds. After fishing for about two hours they hoisted anchor to return, but there wasn't enough gasoline in the tank to start the engine. The anchor was again dropped and a distress signal hoisted on the end of an oar. After three hours the tug Juno came along and towed the craft up to T wharf. Crawford thinks that the gasoline was syphoned out.